HIGHLY ERODIBLE LIST

General

The basis for identifying highly erodible land is the erodibility index of a soil map unit. The erodibility index of a soil is determined by dividing the potential erodibility for each soil by the soil loss tolerance *(T)* value established for the soil. The T value represents the maximum annual rate of soil erosion that could take place without causing a decline in long-term productivity. A soil map unit with an erodibility index of 8 or more is a highly erodible soil map unit.

Water Erosion

Potential erodibility for sheet and rill erosion is estimated by multiplying the following factors of the Universal Soil Loss Equation *(USLE)*:

1. Rainfall and runoff factor *(R)*
2. Susceptibility of the soil to water erosion *(K)*
3. Combined effects of slope length and steepness *(LS)*

The erodibility index for sheet and rill erosion is represented by the formula RKLS/T. A soil map unit is highly erodible if the LS factor for the shortest length and minumum percent of slope is used and the RKLS/T value equals or exceeds 8.

A soil map unit is potentially highly erodible if: *(1)* the RKLS/T value using the minimum LS factor is less than 8; and *(2)* the RKLS/T value using the maximum LS factor is equal to or greater than 8.

Wind Erosion

Potential erodibility from wind erosion is estimated by multiplying the following factors of the Wind Erosion Equation *(WEQ)*.

1. Climatic characterization of windspeed and surface soil moisture *(C)*
2. The susceptibility of the soil to wind erosion *(I)*

The erodibility index for wind erosion is represented by the formula CI/T. A soil map unit is highly erodible if the CI/T value equals or exceeds 8.

Explanation of codes used in the Highly Erodible Lands Report

Code:	Description:
3	Soil does not meet the requirements for Highly Erodible Lands.
2	Range of soil characteristics for the soil as mapped, fall within and outside of the requirements for Highly Erodible Lands.
1	Soil meets the requirements for Highly Erodible Lands.